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Agenda items 46, 120, 121, 122, 124, 125, 130 and 132

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Programme planning

Joint Inspection Unit

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Letter dated 28 August 2006 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to refer to the letters of the Group of 77 and China dated 23 February 2006 and 3 March 2006, regarding the procedural aspects guiding the consideration by the General Assembly of the reports of the Secretary-General on issues related to secretariat and management reform.

It will be recalled that the Group of 77 and China has held the long-standing position that reports of the Secretary-General should be issued under the relevant agenda items of the General Assembly, including those allocated to the Fifth Committee. We have also maintained that the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and its resolutions on the role of the Fifth Committee and the mandate of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions have to be respected during the consideration of the implementation of the 2005 World Summit decisions. I wish to acknowledge the invaluable contribution that you made earlier this year to ensuring that the procedural discussions were resolved before the reports of the Secretary-General were introduced to the Fifth Committee.

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In this regard, it has been brought to my attention that the latest reports of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive review of governance and oversight within the United Nations and its funds, programmes and specialized agencies (A/60/883 and Add.1 and 2) have not been issued under the agenda items allocated to the Fifth Committee. It will be recalled that the reports are issued in response to General Assembly resolutions 57/278 A, 59/264 A, 60/1, 60/248, 60/254, 60/260 and 60/283. The Group of 77 and China therefore wishes to request that the above-mentioned reports of the Secretary-General be issued under the relevant agenda items, including items 46, 120, 121, 122, 124, 125, 130 and 132.

We also expect that the reports will be introduced to the Fifth Committee, as the relevant Main Committee of the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in accordance with established procedures. This will ensure that we avoid unnecessary procedural discussions that may detract from the consideration of the substance of the proposals.

The Group of 77 and China would be pleased if the present letter could be circulated to all Member States as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 46, 120, 121, 122, 124, 125, 130 and 132.

(*Signed*) Dumisani S. **Kumalo**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the
Republic of South Africa to the United Nations
Chairman of the Group of 77